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Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 2-5 and 8-13 are pending with claim 8 as the only independent claim.

Rejections under 35 USC 101

Claims 2-5 and 8-13 have been rejected under 35 USC 101 for being directed towards non-statutory subject matter. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

The Office Action states that claim 8 is non-statutory, as the services interface of claim 8 is not defined as a hardware interface in the specification. This is incorrect. Claim 8 recites that the "web services interface comprises at least one processor..." The recitation is supported by paragraph 41 of the specification, "the web services interface 14 may comprise one or more processors having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to communicate with the secondary software system." The processor of claim 8 is, by definition, hardware. It is a physical component which carries out the various computational steps required for the operation of the system of claim 8. Further support for the processor being hardware may be found in paragraph 69 of the specification. The web services interface of claim 8 is a hardware interface, and claim 8 is therefore directed to statutory subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 8 and its dependent claims under 35 USC 101 be withdrawn, and all claims in the application be allowed.

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Summary

Favorable consideration and allowance are respectfully requested for the pending claims of the present application. Any questions regarding the present response are invited to the attention of the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

_____/s/John L. Doughty_____
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